November 25, 1963 10:30 a.m. 34

TELEPHONE CALL
THE PRESIDENT TO
J. EDGAR HOOVER

Pres. Two things. Apparently some lawyer in Justice is lobbying with the Post because that's where the suggestion came from for this Presidential Commission which we think would be very bad and put it right in the White House. Now we can't be checking up on every shooting scrape in the country, but they've gone to the Post now to get them an editorial, and the Post is calling up and saying they're going to run an editorial if we don't do things. Now we're going to do two things and I wanted you to know about it.

One: We believe that the way to handle this as we said yesterday -- your suggestion -- that you put at every facility at your command, making a full report to the Attorney General and then they make it available to the country in whatever form may seem desirable.

Second: It's a state matter, too, and the State Attorney General is young and able and prudent and very cooperative with you -- he's going to run a court of inquiry which is provided for by a state law and he's going to have associated with him the most outstanding jurists in the country. But he's a good conservative fellow and we don't start invading local jurisdictions that way and he understands what you're doing and he's for it, and I wanted you to understand what he was doing, and he's very strong for it and he's going to announce it today. Now if you get too many cooks messing with the broth it makes -- mess it up. And I think that these two are trained organizations and the Attorney ~~of the~~ General of the state holds Courts of Inquiry every time a law is violated, and the FBI makes these investigations. So I wanted you to know that and you ought to tell your press man that that's what's happening and they can expect Waggoner Carr the Attorney General of Texas to make an announcement this morning, to have a state inquiry and you can offer them your full cooperation and vice versa, he'll do it with you.

JEH We'll work together on it.

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Pres. And any influence you got with the Post, have them point to them that you don't want too many things and just picking out a Tom Dewey lawyer from New York and sending him down -- hunting new facts -- this Commission thing, Mr. Herbert Hoover tried that and sometimes a Commission that's not trained hurts more than it helps.

JEH It's a regular circus then.

LBJ That's right.

JEH Because it'll be covered by TV and everything like that.

LBJ Just like an investigating committee.

JEH Exactly. I don't have much influence with the Post because I frankly don't read it. I view it like the Daily Worker.

LBJ You told me that once before.
I just want your people to know the facts, and your people can say that and that kind of negates it, you see?

JEH Yes sir.

LBJ Thank you

JEH Thank you, Mr. President.

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